

FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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Grist Mill Dog Park Set to Open On April 22nd

The fencing is up and both people and canines are looking forward to the opening of the Grist Mill Off-Leash Dog Area. This will be the seventh dog park built by the Fairfax County Park Authority. These popular facilities provide a place for dogs to frolic without a leash. All of the dog parks are public/private partnerships, developed in cooperation with sponsoring organizations of pet owners. The sponsors are the agency's liaison between users and local residents.

Grist Mill Dog Park will open on Saturday, April 22, 2006. Ceremonies are scheduled for 3 p.m. and will take place rain or shine. Members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, the Fairfax County Park Authority Board and the Mount Vernon Area Dog Opportunity Group will gather with their pets to celebrate completion of this new community asset.

The dog park is a one-acre area enclosed with fencing where dogs can run free and spend time in the company of other dogs. The facility will be operated by volunteers from the Mount Vernon Area Dog Opportunity Group. Mimi Pollow, organization president, is thrilled about the opening, "This will be a great day for the hundreds of donors and their dogs who contributed time and money to make this dog park a reality. We are grateful for the assistance that Gil McCutcheon (Park Authority Board Member) and Gerry Hyland (Supervisor, Mount Vernon District) have given us. These gentlemen have truly served the citizens and the dogs in the Mount Vernon area." Pollow added a special note of thanks to Park Authority staff members including Area Manager Joe Nilson.

Grist Mill Dog Park is located at 4710 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway in Alexandria, VA. Follow signs from the entrance road 50 yards past the garden plots. For more information call the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

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